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LOYOLA'S WOMEN " ON THE MOVE

The first two full time women students invaded the all male sanctuary of seventy year old Loyola College in September of 1963. In 1965 only two short years later, encouraged by Loyola's new Director of Physical Education and Athletics, Ed Enos they had not only invaded the classrooms but the gymnasium as well.

Their response to the expanded program lead to the creation of a formal women's physical education and athletic program. With the women's keen sports interests, and a total enrollment of over 1,200 young ladies expected in September another historical mark for the women was reached in January of 1969. The Department of Physical Education and Athletics was given authorization to employ Loyola's first full time women's physical educator for the school year 1969-70. Selected on merit and enthusiasm was Mrs. Brenda Maunder. Born in Ottawa she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in 1962 and Bachelor of Physical and Health Education the following year from Queen's University. Mrs. Maunder had five successful years of teaching and administrative experience in high schools and summer camps in Ontario, Quebec and Europe before coming to Loyola.

The First Annual Loyola Women's Sports Day held yesterday was highlighted by her being introduced to the Montreal News media and the announcement that Loyola's precision Majorettes and Cheerleaders would be representatives of Canadian Colleges and Universities in the Grey Cup Parade on Saturday. The Majorettes are headed by Donna Arseneault of Pointe Claire and the Cheerleaders by the late "Shag" Shaughnessy's grand-daughter Honora Shaughnessy.

Twenty other physical education and athletic activities are offered to Loyola's female population. One of the aims of the expanded program conceived and initiated by department head Ed Enos four years ago was to provide a place for not only male students but for each and every female on campus. The activities are diversified and conducted on the multiple levels in order for all students to be able to reap the full benefits by being active as participants. Spectatorism is out - sports involvement is the "in" thing on the Loyola campus. On the intercollegiate level there is basketball, hockey and volleyball. Intramurals consist of badminton, basketball, broomball, field hockey, hockey and volleyball. Co-ed club activities consist of archery, aikido, curling, fencing, free skating, gymnastics, judo, modern dance, parachuting, swimming, skiing and table tennis.

Intercollegiately, Loyola competes in two leagues. The Ontario-Quebec Women's Conference of Intercollege Athletics (OQWCIA) and Women's Intercollegiate Two-Conference Association (WITCA). The participating schools in the OQWCIA, Eastern Division are Carleton University, Macdonald College, Ottawa University, Sir George Williams University, Université de Montreal, and Loyola. WITCA consist of Carleton University, Macdonald College, McGill University, McMaster University, Ottawa University, Queen's University, Sir George Williams University, Université de Montréal, University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario and Loyola.

Loyola fields three varsity teams hockey coached by Steve Lowe, volleyball by Mary Porter, and basketball which is headed by the newest member of Loyola's athletic staff, Irene Komachy. (Next year Loyola is planning to add another team to the leagues in field hockey which in its first year was a success.)

Offered daily are a wide range of intramural activities the girls can participate in. They include basketball, hockey, badminton, field hockey, broomball and volleyball. The third category, co-ed clubs gives Loyola co-eds an opportunity for physical activity in a social milieu. Leading the list is the ski club with a record enrollment of 150 members. The club will take to the slopes weekly and participate in racing events between other colleges. What began last year as a small impossible dream, the parachuting club has gained momentum and are still in their preliminary training before going to the air. In its third year at Loyola the archery club has increased enrollment to some 40 participants. With Mrs. Maunder at the helm the gymnastics club has increased its membership to some 40 co-eds. Yet the two fastest growing activities in popularity with near maximum numbers partaking are judo and aikido.

The two best judo instructors in Quebec are in charge of the co-ed club. Masayuki Hisataka, who holds a 7th dan black belt in karate, the highest achievement in Canada and 5th dan in Quebec which is tops in the province is the chief instructor. He is ably assisted by Hiroshi Nakamura, who is second only in proficiency to Hisataka. Massimo Nicolachi Di Villadorata, the foremost exponent of aikido in Quebec heads the aikido club.

This year the modern dance club has 45 active members. Their instructress Iro Tembeck holds a masters from McGill and has 15 years experience in ballet and modern dancing. The co-eds may also find enjoyment in fencing, curling, table-tennis and swimming.

Within the confines of the athletic complex are found diversified and modern facilities to accommodate the female enthusiasts. The skating rink, one of the best in the city, is used by the women for ice hockey, curling, broomball, figure skating and co-ed skating parties. The 19,000 square foot gymnasium contains in reality a double gym with 100 x 80 feet floor area. It is equipped to serve as a multi-purpose indoor sports emporium for basketball, volleyball, badminton, gymnastics, tennis and similar activities. Also, there is the girls own wing for dressing, showers and equipment.

Vitally assisting the trained professional staff are the members and executive of the Women's Athletic Council. The Council enables Loyola co-eds to become intimately involved in all the administrative facets of the program. This year's council is headed by President Maureen Newman, Karol Conway is the Vice-President and Jane Little, the Publicist.

Loyola's athletic program epitomizes what can be done when student activists' energies are directed toward constructive ends. With students and administrators working together in just four short years, Loyola's Department of Physical Education and Athletics has expanded to be one of the foremost in Canada. The traditionally strong men's program has escalated to even new heights with its diversified excellence unmatched in the country last year. The women's division has made rapid progress to date and more will be done in the future. One thing is for sure, Loyola's women are "on the move".